

SENIOR STAFF MEETING

AGENDA

Director's Conference Room  
Second Floor  
Administration Building  
Monday, 3 December 1956

- ✓ 1. How Intelligence Community was operating as a team  
and was on top of the Suez situation

DCI

- ✓ 2. Session with Killian Committee

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*DD/P Trip*

*Mr. Winne*

1. Letter from Vienna Station on Hungarian crisis  
actions

BDCI

2. Statement re personnel at Budget hearing

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Status of Consolidated Charities Drive & PSAS

Dir. Pers.

*Harry Reynolds*

Christmas Holidays

DD/S

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1. INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY OPERATIONS REGARDING SUEZ SITUATION

Mr. Dulles opened the meeting by saying that the Intelligence Community did a good job on the Egyptian situation and that the President was highly pleased with our performance. He said that we should not worry about uncomplimentary reports in the press and that he had met informally with representatives of the press to explain the situation. He also has made it clear to the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the Killian Committee exactly what knowledge we had and the manner in which it was distributed. The Director said that the committees with which he met exhibited an attitude of cooperation and understanding.

Mr. Amory stated that it was fortunate for the Agency to have the calibre of people it does on the President's Consultants Committee critiquing us. He said that we should not be complacent about our performance on the Suez crisis - that it was a passable performance, saved by spot reports, etc. but that our September estimate was not too satisfactory in view of developments.

Mr. Dulles then indicated that we had been perhaps too conservative in our September estimate, but that from an overall standpoint he felt that we had done a good job. There followed a further short critique on our performance on the Suez situation, participated in by Messrs. Wisner, Kent and others.

2. DDP REPORT OF TRIP

Mr. Wisner gave the highlights of his recent trip to Europe. Based on "voluntary" statements on the part of Europeans who are in a position to know, Mr. Wisner stated that their opinion was that U. S. prestige has never been higher. Those who made such statements to him also indicated the United States should go ahead and exercise this prestige in view of the fact that the European countries will back us now where they would not previously and perhaps will not again. These opinions were especially prevalent in

25X1 [redacted] where he also found some confusion concerning  
25X1 the significance of the Hungarian developments. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted]  
25X1 [redacted] Mr. Wisner indicated that the wounds to the  
25X1 Communists in Russia brought about by recent world developments are considerable and some of them are very deep. Some of the problems of Russia are unsoluble. Whereas the United States and the free world seems to be pretty much "out of the woods" in our own difficulties, the USSR still has its own.

25X1 3. MONTHLY LETTER [redacted]

25X1 Gen. Cabell indicated that a monthly letter to the DCI from [redacted] related how this station had geared up to meet the situation that developed in Hungary. In addition to its own superb job, the station also helped out with the work of the other people [redacted]  
25X1 [redacted] He indicated that this letter would be circulated.

#### 4. DELINQUENT FIELD CORRESPONDENCE

The Director said that, during his recent trip he had found that some stations were not receiving replies to correspondence, cables, etc. requiring action in headquarters, within satisfactory time periods. He also said that these stations apparently were not reporting this delinquent correspondence in their monthly letters to the DCI because of their fear of possible retaliation by desk heads and division chiefs. Mr. Dulles said that he wanted to be sure that all stations did report delinquent correspondence and that he felt that they should not fear action that might be taken by headquarters personnel because of their doing this.'

#### 5. POLICY REGARDING PERSONNEL CEILING

Gen. Cabell said that questions had arisen in certain quarters regarding our expectations as to the number of personnel the Agency anticipated having on its rolls during the forthcoming budget year. Gen. Cabell said that our policy has been to indicate that we would not increase the size of our staff and would try to cut down, but that we would not miss the opportunity to accomplish our mission effectively even if this necessitated an increase in personnel.

#### 6. INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT TO THE FIELD FROM HEADQUARTERS

Mr. Wisner indicated that a number of stations had expressed their appreciation to him for the magnificent support they had received from headquarters in the way of hard intelligence which was used by them partially in debunking rumors in the field. [REDACTED]

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#### 7. CONSOLIDATED CHARITIES DRIVE

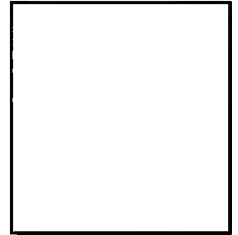
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[REDACTED] a report of the status of the Consolidated Charities Drive and the drive for funds for the Public Service Aid Society, which reflected that we had gone well over the goal that was established and that we would be able to give each of the participating charities at least the amount we had given them last year. PSAS netted something over \$5,000 during the drive. [REDACTED] also said that he was preparing a letter to go to our field stations explaining the purposes of PSAS and affording field personnel an opportunity to contribute to it.

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#### 8. FORTHCOMING HOLIDAYS

Col. White indicated that December 24 would be a holiday for the Agency as well as the rest of the Government and that it would be a "Saturday type" holiday insofar as staffing within the Agency is concerned. Col. White also indicated that New Years Eve would not be a holiday but that the various offices should be lenient in authorizing annual leave where ever possible.

SENIOR STAFF MEETINGAGENDA

Director's Conference Room  
Second Floor  
Administration Building  
on Wednesday, 14 November 1956

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Report on Trip	MR. DULLES
Appointment of Mr. Gordon Stewart as Director of Personnel, 18 January 1957	MR. DULLES
Length of Cables	MR. DULLES
Responsiveness of Personnel to Recent Emergencies	GEN. CABELL
Civil Defense, Battle Creek	GEN. CABELL
Visit to Far East Stations	COL. WHITE
Consolidated Charities Drive	MR. REYNOLDS

*Reynolds*